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Project: Marlboro County Shale Site

Project Sponsor: The Brigman Company, Inc.: P.O. Box 1532, Conway, SC 29528

Agency and Permit Number: Palmetto Brick Company; no permit number given

Project Location: Northwestern corner of Marlboro County, north of Wallace, S.C. and just south of the North Carolina state line (Figure 1).

Field Personnel: Tom Covington and Nicole Southerland

Date of Survey: September 23-24, 2003

Objective: To obtain historical research that will assist in better understanding of the types of historic sites present on the tract; and to identify the areas of the tract that have the highest probability of producing archaeological and/or historical sites.

Survey Description: The 50 acre tract consisted of an open, logged area with 75 to 100% visibility and steeper slopes closer to the creek which had a forest of mixed pines and hardwoods (Figure 3). Marks Creek (Figure 4) makes up the boundary of the northern and western parts of the tract while the eastern boundary is a branch of Marks creek and the southern boundary is arbitrary. The tract is shown in Figure 2.

The first step in the assessment was to locate historic maps of the area to see if there were any structures or other pertinent information which would point to a possible site location. These maps include:

1. Mills' *Atlas* of 1825 (Figure 5)
2. Marlboro County, South Carolina from 1873 by E.M. Stoeber
3. Map of Marlboro County, South Carolina from 1880 by John R. Parker (Figure 6)
4. A Map of Marlboro County, South Carolina from 1908 by R.L. Freeman (Figure 7)
5. *Reconnaissance Erosion Map of State of South Carolina* from 1934 by M.W. Lowry
6. 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County* (Figure 8)

In addition, the Archives and History GIS was consulted for any historic structures, districts, or objects which may be located within the tract boundaries.

During the field survey, the road was walked, the ridge tops were examined, and samples of



areas with surface visibility were examined. The project is in a rural area with very few houses in close proximity.

According to the soil survey for Greenwood County (Craft 1965) the tract contains soils common to sloping areas. In general the soils are well drained and include Vacluse sands and Ruston loamy sands. The exception is along Marks Creek, to the north and west, which displays mixed alluvial soils and are very poorly drained. Slopes occur from 2 to 25% in the area and all the slopes tended to be eroded. The 1934 *Reconnaissance Erosion Map of State of South Carolina* shows this area to have less than 25% of the surface gone.

The tract had been recently logged, so much of the area was open with a 75 to 100% visibility (Figure 9). The steeper slopes closer to Marks Creek were forested in a pine and hardwood forest which provided poor surface visibility due to various underbrush.

Results: A background check at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History GIS revealed no historic structures with the tract boundaries. There is, however, one National Register of Historic Places property just at and beyond 1.0 mile of the proposed property. The structure is the 1770 Pegues House which was listed on the National Register in 1971 (Figure 10).

Investigations at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology failed to reveal any previously identified sites within the project tract, however, the Pegues House (38ML7) was noted at the 1.0 mile boundary. No additional sites have been found within a mile of the project tract.

A closer investigation of the historic maps revealed no structures in the project area and only three maps (Numbers 3, 4, and 6) show the Pegues house. Mills' *Atlas* of 1825 fails to show the Pegues house, however, the road running through the tract appears to be a road to Parker's Ferry off the original road from Marlboro to North Carolina (see Figure 5).

The examination of surface archaeological and architectural sites revealed nothing. No above ground structures were encountered and in addition none of the ridge tops or open areas showed evidence of sites. As mentioned, a large portion of the tract had good surface visibility, however, erosion has severely damaged the land making the subsoil appear very close to the surface. It is unlikely that subsurface testing will reveal any sites. The forested areas, with no surface visibility, are on steep slopes and will unlikely reveal sites.

Summary: No historic or archaeological sites were previously recorded within the project boundary, however, a National Register of Historic Places site, the ca. 1770 Pegues House, is located just at 1.0 mile from the project tract. Mining is already taking place in the area, so it is unlikely that this proposed mining area, located well away from any habitable structures and shielded by forest, will have any impact on the National Register property. The Pegues House is also somewhat shielded, located on a dead end street.

Erosion on the tract is high which may hinder the ability to find sites. In addition, the slopes, with only a small ridge top area, make it unlikely that a site with integrity will be found. Although it appears that the original road still exists, erosion has been so severe that crushed bricks have been placed on the roadway (Figure 11) and it appears that a minor reworking of the road has also been completed. In all, the entire tract has a low potential for archaeological sites.

Craft, Richard W.

1965 *Soil Survey of Marlboro County, South Carolina.* U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Marlboro County Bicentennial Committee

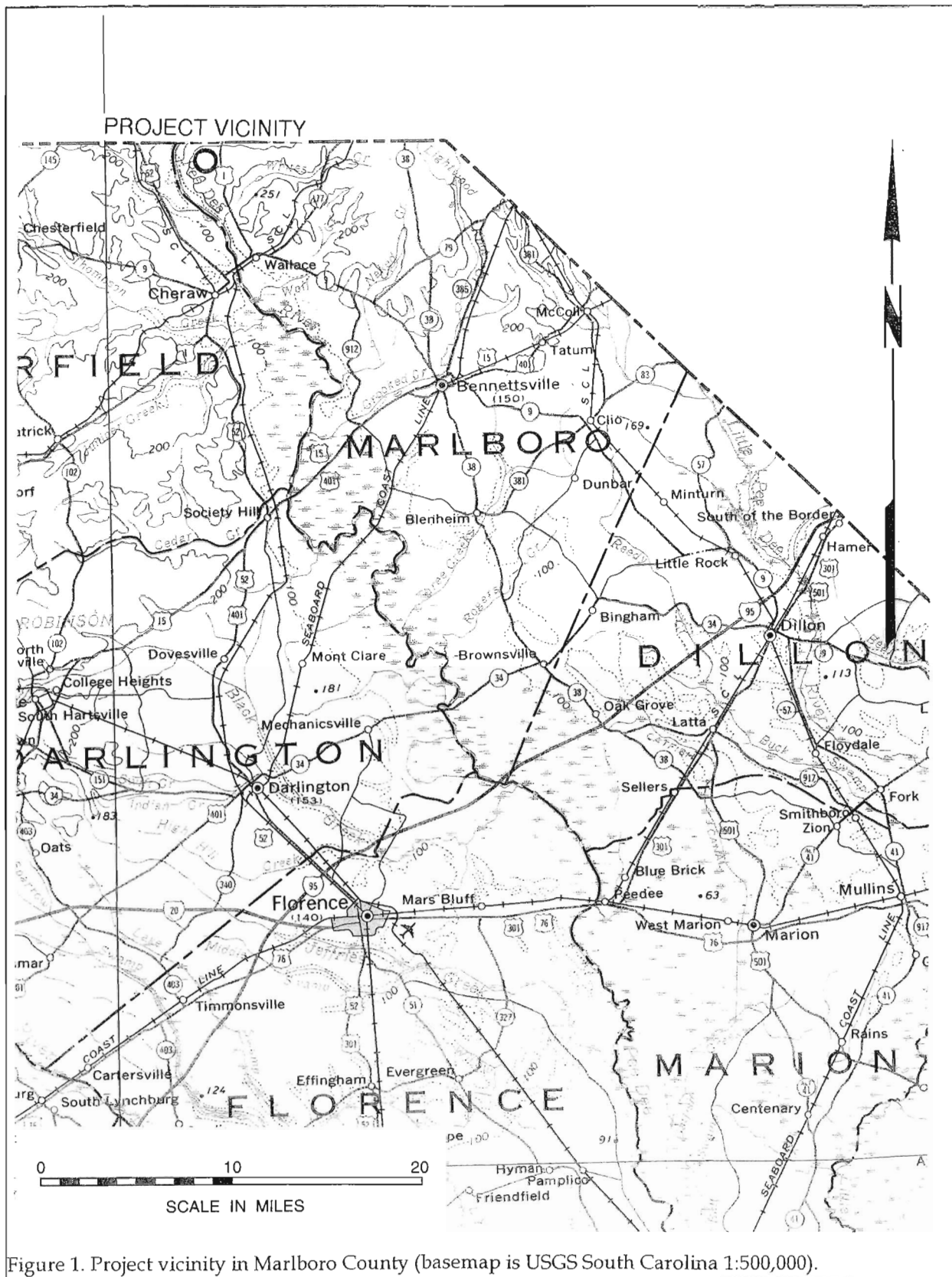
1976 *Historical Tours of Marlboro County.* n.p.

Marlboro Historical Society

1996 *Marlboro County, South Carolina: A Pictorial History.* Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas, Texas.

Thomas, J.A.W.

1897[1971] *A History of Marlboro County with Traditions and Sketches of Numerous Families.* Regional Publishing Co., Baltimore, Maryland.



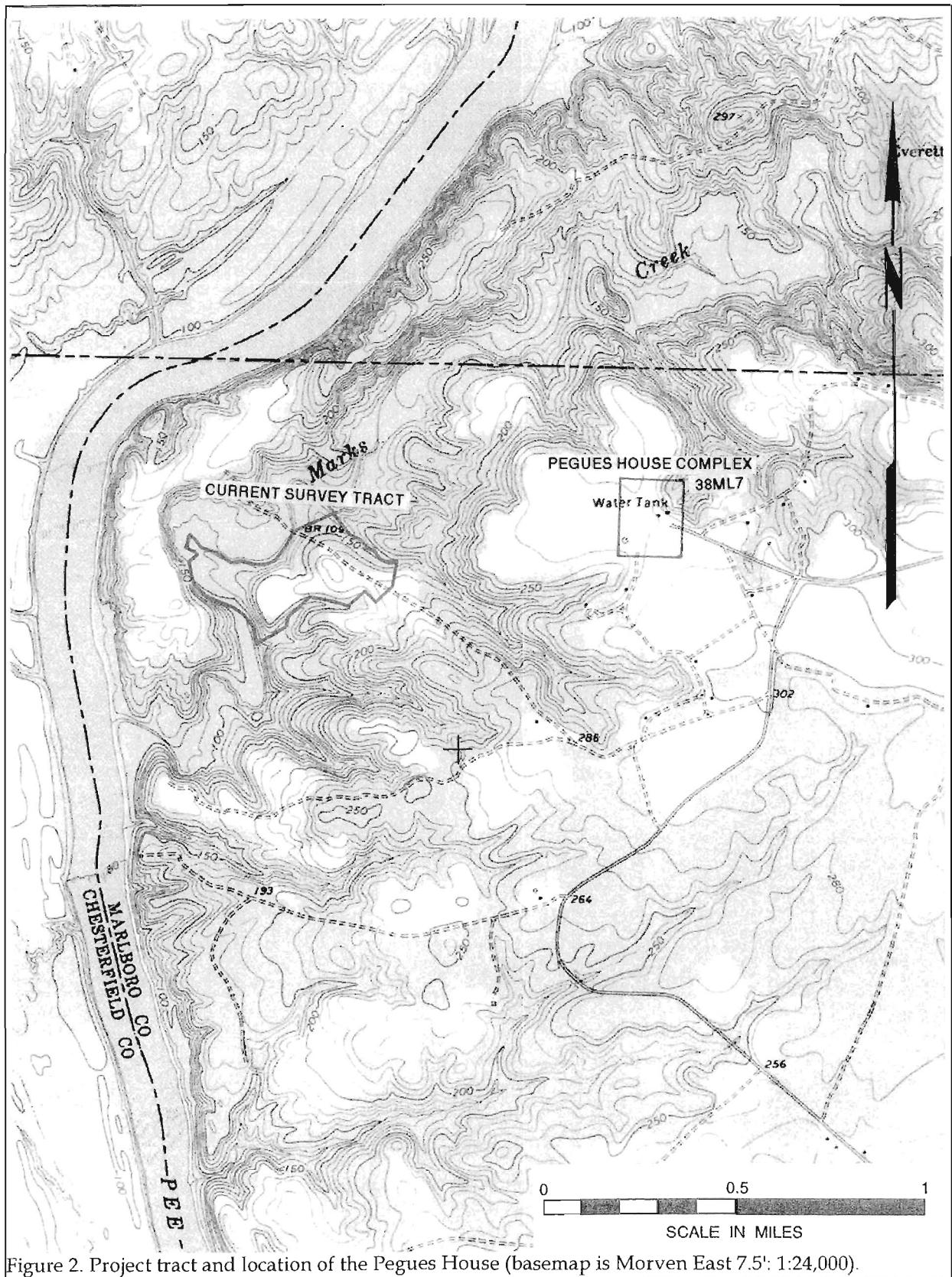




Figure 3. View of pines and hardwoods on the project tract.



Figure 4. View of Marks Creek next to the project tract.

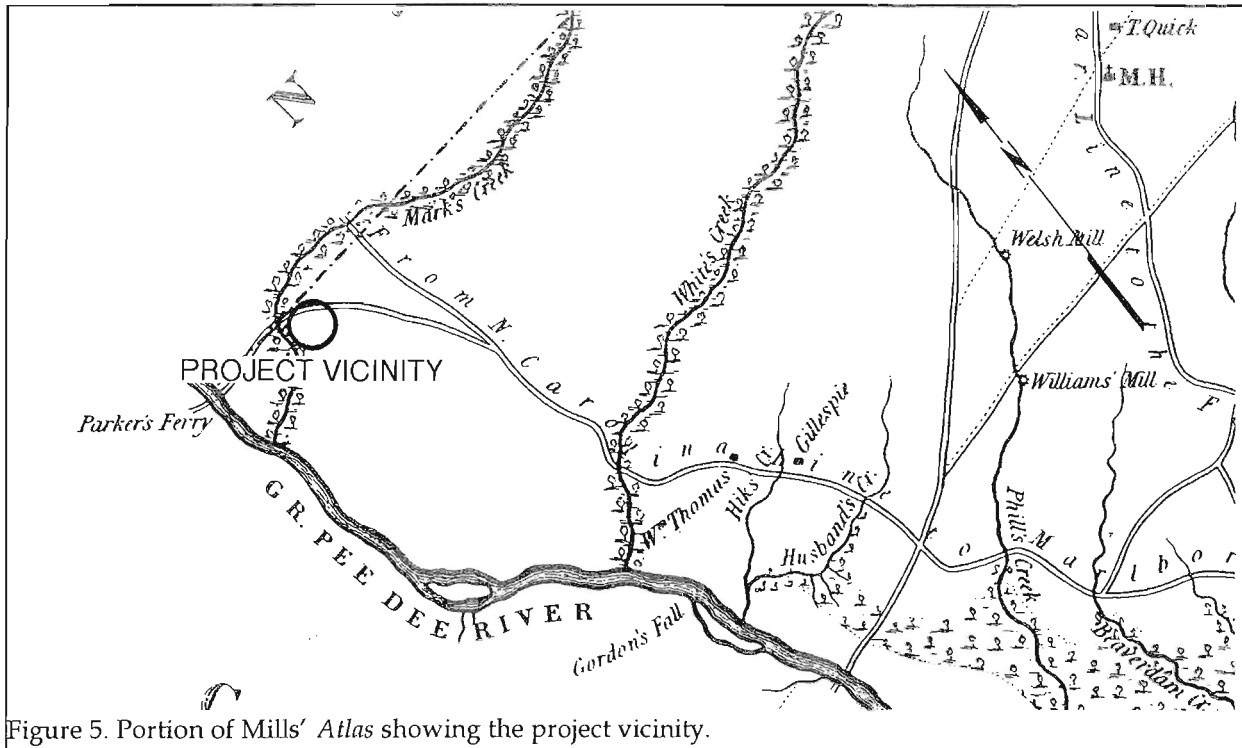


Figure 5. Portion of Mills' Atlas showing the project vicinity.

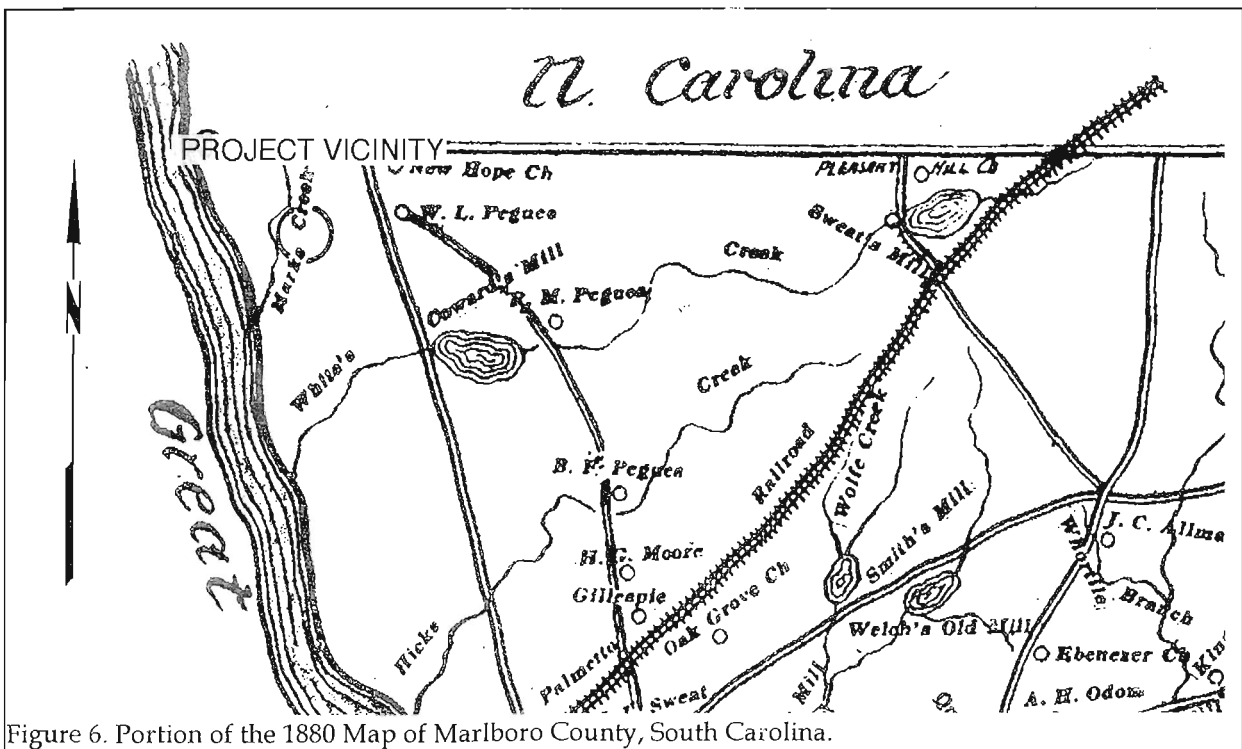


Figure 6. Portion of the 1880 Map of Marlboro County, South Carolina.

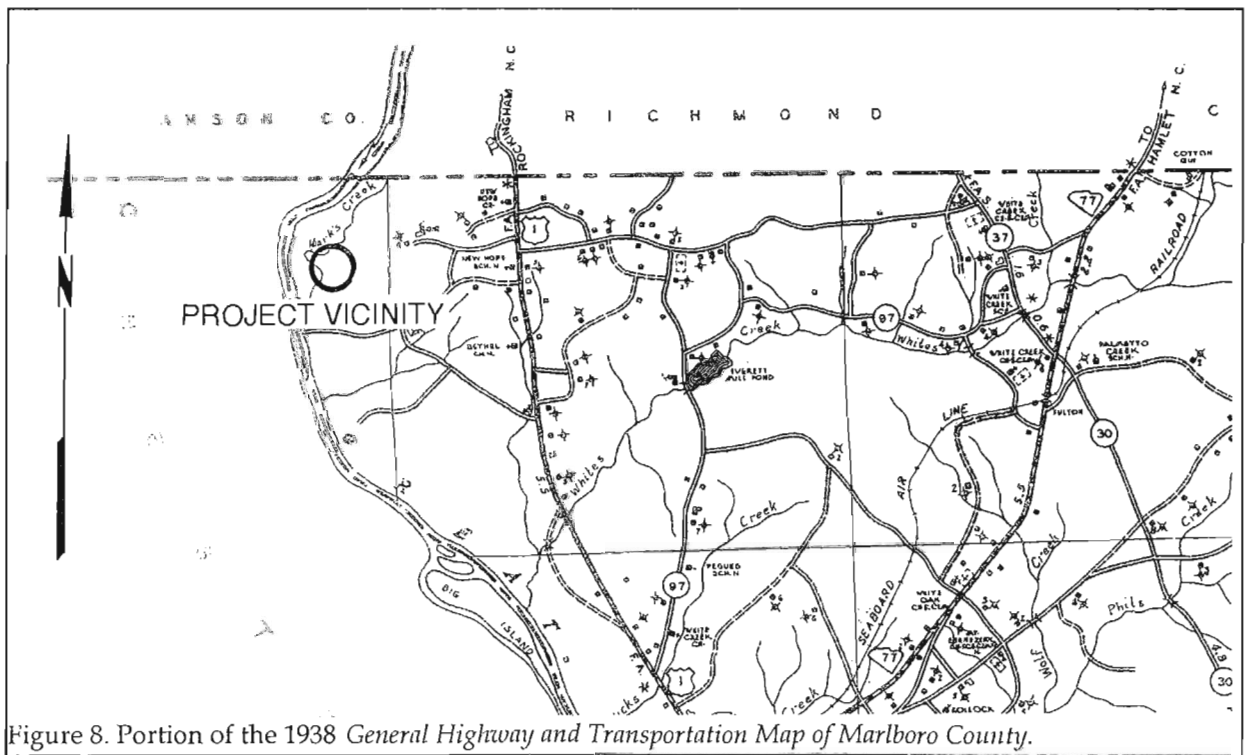
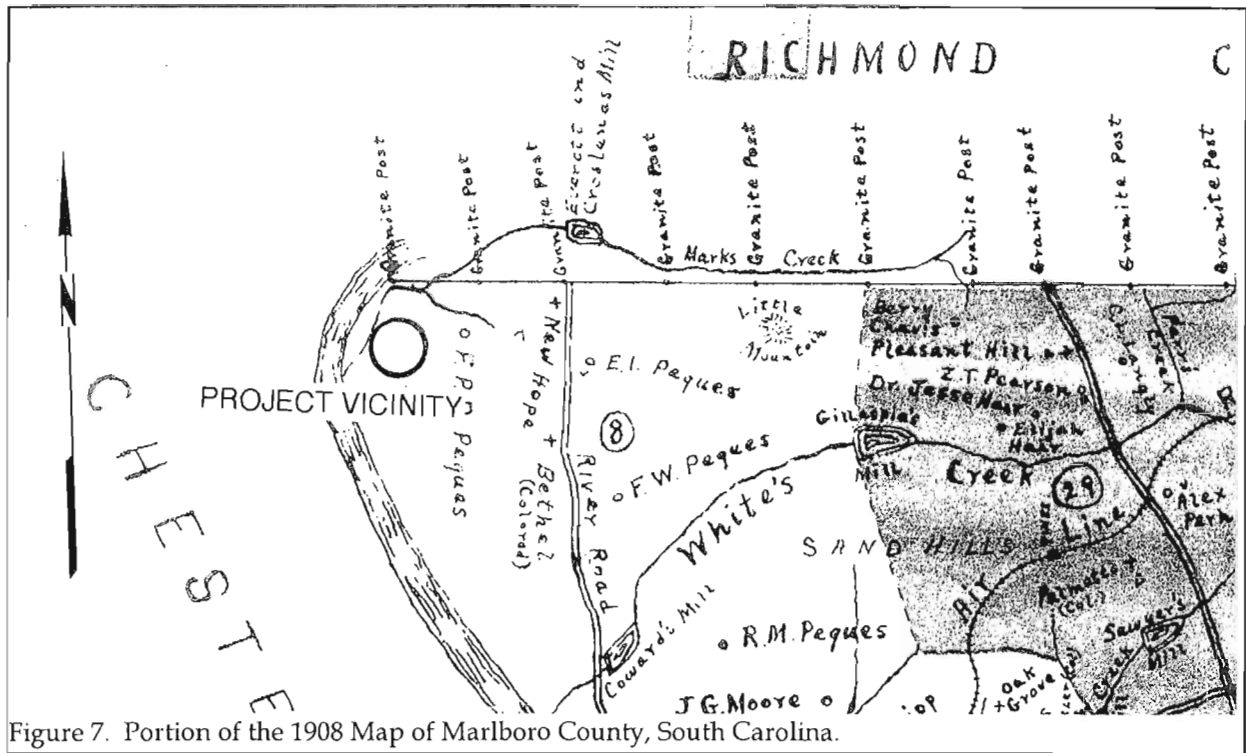




Figure 9. View of the logged portion of the tract.



Figure 10. View of the Pegues house.



Figure 11. View of crushed bricks on the roadway.